

ABSTRACT

5 This invention provides improved apparatus and methods for completing a
subterranean zone penetrated by a wellbore. One embodiment of the present invention is
a wellbore completion comprising a plurality of longitudinal gravel pack sections
disposed within a well, the gravel pack sections are capable of imposing a predetermined
substantially radial flow restriction upon fluid production flowing radially through the
gravel pack section. At least one of the gravel pack sections creating a radial flow
restriction that is different from the radial flow restriction of at least one other gravel
10 pack section. The gravel pack sections can comprise graded gravel material having an
effective permeability within a predetermined range when placed in the well.